

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A control apparatus comprising:

a communication unit for conducting data communication;

5 and

a storage unit including a table storing identification information assigned to the control apparatus and identification information of another control apparatus.

10 2. A control system comprising:

a plurality of control apparatuses connected to each other to communicate with each other, wherein:

each of control apparatuses includes:

15 a first transmission unit for transmitting identification information of the control apparatus's own to the other control apparatuses;

a reception unit for receiving identification information of the other control apparatuses transmitted from the other control apparatuses; and

20 a first storage unit for storing the identification information of the control apparatus's own and the identification information of the other control apparatuses to which registration update information is added in a table of the control apparatus's own.

25

3. The system according to claim 2, wherein the first storage unit conducts the storage at a time of first energization after the control apparatuses are connected to each other.

5 4. The system according to claim 2, wherein:

each of control apparatuses further includes a comparison unit for comparing table information read out from the table of the control apparatus's own and table information read out from the table of the other control apparatuses; and

10 when each of comparison units concludes that at least one of the table information is different from the other table information, each of first storage unit stores all the identification information to which new registration update information is added in each of tables.

15

5. The system according to claim 4, wherein:

each of control apparatuses further includes:

a second transmission unit; and

a second storage unit;

20 when each of comparison units concludes that the at least one of the table information is different from the other table information, each of second transmission units transmits history information stored in the table of the control apparatus's own to the control apparatus including the at least
25 one of the table information;

each of second storage units stores the history information transmitted by the second transmission units in the table of the control apparatus's own.

5 6. The system according to claim 4, wherein the comparison units conducts the comparison at a predetermined timing.

10 7. The system according to claim 2, further comprising:

 a reading unit for reading table information stored in each of tables of the control apparatuses, wherein:

 the reading unit includes:

15 a transmission request unit for requesting at least one of the control apparatuses to transmit the table information stored in the table of the at least one of the control apparatuses;

 a notification unit for notifying the table information, which is transmitted on the basis of the request by the transmission request unit; and

20 each of control apparatuses includes a third transmission unit for transmitting the table information stored in the control apparatus's own to the reading unit on the basis of the request by the transmission request unit.

25 8. The system according to claim 7, wherein the

notification unit includes an indicator lamp mounted on a vehicle.

9. A control system comprising:

5 a first control apparatus; and
a second control apparatus connected to the first control apparatus, wherein:

each of first and second control apparatuses includes:

a first transmission unit;

10 a reception unit; and

a first storage unit;

the first transmission unit of the first control apparatus transmits identification information of the first control apparatus to the second control apparatus;

15 the first transmission unit of the second control apparatus transmits identification information of the second control apparatus to the first control apparatus;

the reception unit of the first control apparatus receives the identification information of the second control apparatus
20 transmitted by the first transmission unit of the second control apparatus;

the reception unit of the second control apparatus receives the identification information of the first control apparatus transmitted by the first transmission unit of the
25 first control apparatus;

the first storage unit of the first control apparatus stores into a table of the first control apparatus the identification information of the first and second control apparatuses to which registration update information is added;

5 and

the first storage unit of the second control apparatus stores into a table of the second control apparatus the identification information of the first and second control apparatuses to which the registration update information is

10 added.

10. The system according to claim 9, wherein the first storage unit of each of first and second control apparatuses conducts the storage at a time of first energization after the first and second control apparatus are connected to each other.

11. The system according to claim 9, wherein:

each of first and second control apparatuses further includes a comparison unit for comparing table information read from the table of the first control apparatus;

when the comparison unit of the first control apparatus concludes that the table information of the first control apparatus is different from the table information of the second control apparatus, the first storage unit of the first control apparatus stores the identification information of the first

and second control apparatuses to which new registration update information is added in the table of the first control apparatus; and

when the comparison unit of the second control apparatus
5 concludes that the table information of the second control apparatus is different from the table information of the first control apparatus, the first storage unit of the second control apparatus stores the identification information of the first and second control apparatuses to which the new registration
10 update information is added in the table of the second control apparatus.

12. The system according to claim 11, wherein:

each of first and second control apparatuses further
15 includes:

a second transmission unit; and

a second store unit;

when the comparison unit of the first control apparatus
concludes that the table information of the first control
20 apparatus is different from the table information of the second control apparatus, the second transmission unit of the first control apparatus transmits history information stored in the table of the first control apparatus to the second control apparatus;

25 when the comparison unit of the second control apparatus

concludes that the table information of the second control apparatus is different from the table information of the first control apparatus, the second transmission unit of the second control apparatus transmits history information stored in the
5 table of the second control apparatus to the first control apparatus;

the second store unit of the first control apparatus stores the history information transmitted by the second transmission unit of the second control apparatus in the table of the first
10 control apparatus; and

the second store unit of the second control apparatus stores the history information transmitted by the second transmission unit of the first control apparatus in the table of the second control apparatus.

15

13. The system according to claim 12, wherein each of comparison units conducts the comparison at a predetermined timing.

20

14. The system according to claim 9, further comprising a reading unit for reading table information stored in each of tables of the first and second control apparatuses, wherein:

the reading unit includes:

a transmission request unit for requesting at least
25 one of the first and second control apparatuses to

transmit the table information stored in the table of
the at least one to the reading unit;

5 a notification unit for notifying the table
information, which is transmitted on the basis of the
request by the transmission request unit; and

10 each of first and second control apparatuses
includes a third transmission unit for transmitting the
table information stored in each of first and second
control apparatuses to the reading unit on the basis
of the request by the transmission request unit.

15 15. The system according to claim 14, wherein the
notification unit includes an indicator lamp mounted on a
vehicle.